



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Lynne De Bruin, 15th District

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PARKS DEPARTMENT TO USE "HONOR SYSTEM" AT FIVE GOLF COURSES

Supervisor De Bruin concerned about loss of revenue at par-3 golf courses

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Lynne De Bruin is informing constituents that five of Milwaukee County's golf courses, Doyne, Lake, Madison, Noyes and Zablocki, will lose all weekday staffing by May 1st. Supervisor De Bruin said the Parks Department has confirmed to her that these golf courses will only be staffed on weekends. Staff plays a critical role in helping beginner golfers develop a lifelong appreciation for the game of golf.

"This decision puts the future of these golf courses at risk. Anyone wishing to golf during the week would have to use payment boxes that are based solely on the honor system, and that will lead to a drop in par-3 golf course revenue for Milwaukee County. It also raises concerns about theft from these payment boxes," said Supervisor De Bruin. "Beyond that, we cannot base the County's revenues on the honor system. This decision effectively sets these courses up for failure, because everyone knows the best way to close a county facility is to depress its revenues."

The clubhouse at the five courses will be open from 9am-7pm on weekends only. The honor system is planned for weekdays when the clubhouse is expected to be closed. Similar honor systems are now in place at all of Milwaukee County's dog parks and marina slips.

"Closing down clubhouses and installing port-a-johns are not the way to go," Supervisor De Bruin added. "Once again, a major change is made without informing either the County Board of the public."

"This doesn't sound like a gold medal golf system to me," said Kelly Herald, one of De Bruin's Milwaukee constituents. "My fear is that locking up these clubhouses during the week will lead to the ultimate demise of these courses."

Lake and Zablocki golf courses are already open for the season. Doyne, Madison and Noyes open May 1st. Fees for the 9-hole par-3 courses are \$7.

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